

LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for executing a money deposit transaction, in which an operator deposits bank notes in an apparatus for executing the money deposit transaction, according to which deposited money is credited to an account of the operator or may at least in part be returned to the operator, comprising the following steps:

inserting the bank notes to be deposited into an input pocket of the apparatus during a deposit or money receiving portion of the deposit transaction,

during the deposit or money receiving portion of the deposit transaction, checking the inserted bank notes by a checking device of the apparatus at least as to the authenticity and the state of the bank notes and determining fitness for circulation of said banknotes as a result of the checking,

transporting at least parts of the bank notes which were recognized as not fit for circulation by the checking device into a storage pocket of the apparatus not accessible by the operator during the deposit or money receiving portion of the ongoing money deposit transaction,

transporting at least parts of the bank notes which were recognized as fit for circulation by the checking device into a storage pocket of the apparatus freely accessible by the operator during the ongoing money deposit transaction,

subsequently transporting the bank notes located in the not accessible storage pocket into a bank note cassette not accessible by the operator; and

crediting the account of the operator for the amount of money deposited by the operator and retained by the apparatus.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein at the beginning of the money deposit transaction criteria are predetermined for the bank notes that are to be transported into either or both the freely accessible storage pocket and the not accessible storage pocket.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the criteria relate to one or more of an amount, a number, a currency, and a denomination of the bank notes.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the criteria are predetermined by the operator by means of a display and input unit.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the criteria are predetermined by one or more cash desks from which the deposited bank notes have come.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein criteria used by the checking device for checking the bank notes as to their fitness state are changeable.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein bank notes not recognized by the checking device are dispensed into another freely accessible storage pocket.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for executing a money deposit transaction, namely depositing bank notes during a deposit or money receiving portion of the money deposit transaction and selectively returning at least some deposited money to an operator following the deposit or money receiving portion of the money deposit transaction, comprising:

an input pocket accessible to an operator during the ongoing money deposit transaction, ~~for~~ arranged to enable the operator to insert inserting bank notes to be deposited by the operator during a deposit or money receiving portion of

the ongoing money deposit transaction,

a checking device arranged to check bank notes inserted into the input pocket at least as to the authenticity and state of the bank notes and to determine fitness for circulation of said banknotes during the deposit or money receiving portion of the ongoing money deposit transaction,

a storage pocket not accessible to the operator during the ongoing money deposit transaction,

a storage pocket freely accessible to the operator during the ongoing money deposit transaction,

a ~~not-accessible~~ bank note cassette not accessible to the operator,

and a transport system arranged to transport the bank notes from the input pocket to the checking device, from the checking device to the freely accessible storage pocket and to the not accessible storage pocket during the deposit portion of the ongoing money deposit transaction, and from the not accessible storage pocket into the bank note cassette following the money deposit transaction,

and a control unit arranged to actuate the transport system in such a way that bank notes not fit for circulation at least partially are transported into the not accessible storage pocket during the deposit or money receiving portion of the ongoing money deposit transaction, and bank notes fit for circulation at least partially are transported into the freely accessible storage pocket during the deposit or money receiving portion of the ongoing money deposit transaction for selective return or partial return to the operator following the deposit or money receiving portion of the ongoing money deposit transaction.

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, including a display and input unit for the input of criteria for the transportation of the bank notes either or both fit for circulation and not fit for circulation into either or both the freely accessible storage pocket and the not accessible storage pocket.

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the apparatus is connected with at least one cash desk providing criteria for either or both the transportation of the bank notes fit for circulation and not fit for circulation into either or both the freely accessible storage pocket and the not accessible storage pocket.

11. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the criteria relate to one or more of an amount, a number, a currency and a denomination of the bank notes.

12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the criteria used by the checking device for checking the bank notes as to their fitness state are changeable.

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 8, including another storage pocket freely accessible to the operator during the ongoing money deposit transaction, and wherein the transport system is arranged to transport bank notes not recognized by the checking device, under the control of the control unit, into said another freely accessible storage pocket.